

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees and recognition of the many benefits they provide; and,

Whereas, This holiday, called Arbor Day, is now observed throughout the nation and world; and,

Whereas, Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, reduce heating and cooling costs, assist with temperature control, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and,

Whereas, Trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products; and,

Whereas, Trees in our communities increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and add beauty and variety to the environment; and,

Whereas, Hy-Vee, Inc., has generously donated 800 trees to re-green South Dakota's communities and improve our environment; and,

Whereas, Trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and,

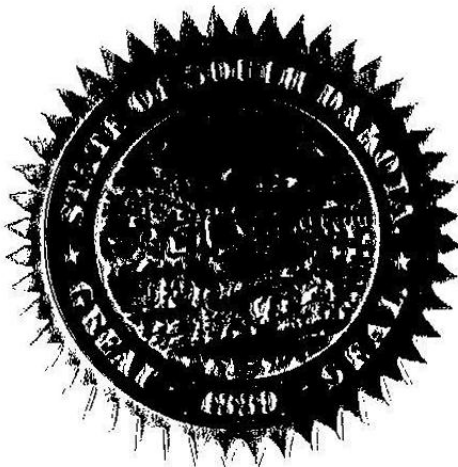
Whereas, In 1947, 62 years ago, the South Dakota Legislature established the last Friday in April as South Dakota's official Arbor Day:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 24, 2009, and the week of April 19 – 25, 2009, as

ARBOR DAY AND ARBOR WEEK

in South Dakota, and urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and I also urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.



M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State